

D<sup>1</sup> 2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the inert atmosphere is obtained by purging the curing zone with inert gas, wherein said gas does not react with said coating.

D<sup>2</sup> 4. (Thrice Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein an oxygen concentration of the curing zone is less than 1,000 parts per million.

Please cancel claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer.